THE SHOWDOWN OF THE CENTURY!

DC VERSUS MARVEL COMICS

#1

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IT ALL STARTS HERE!

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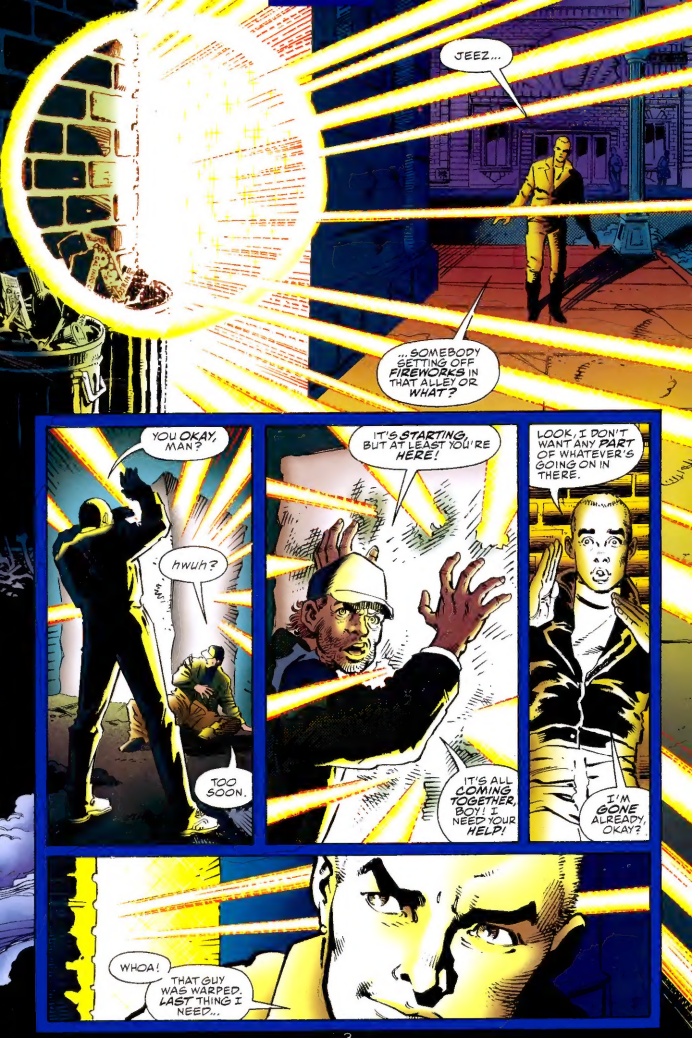
MANHATTAN.
I LOVE THIS TOWN.
JUST WHEN YOU'VE HAD IT, WHEN YOU THINK YOU CAN'T TAKE ANYMORE FROM THE BIG APPLE, IT GIVES YOU AN HONEST-TO-GOD QUIET NIGHT FOR A CHANGE.
NIGHTS LIKE THIS I KNOW I DID THE RIGHT THING COMING BACK TO NEW YORK AND GETTING MY LIFE TOGETHER...
...PUTTING ON THE COSTUME AGAIN. WELL, A COSTUME, ANYWAY.
MAYBE WITHOUT THE MASK I'M STILL GOING BY THE NAME BEN REILLY, BUT THIS IS WHO I REALLY AM. IT FEELS GOOD BEING SPIDER-MAN.

AW, NO.
COME ON, DON'T RUIN MY NIGHT. IT'S TOO PEACEFUL FOR MY SPIDER-SENSE TO BE GOING OFF!
NOTHING IN THE ALLEY BUT A GRUBBY-LOOKING GUY AND A CARDBOARD BOX.
WHAT KIND OF DANGER COULD I BE DETECT--?
HOLD ON!
WHY'S THE BOX GLOWING? NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE--
HEY!
GOT HIT, BUT I DIDN'T FEEL ANY...
...THING.


JEEZ...
...SOMEBODY GETTING OFF FIREWORKS IN THAT ALLEY OR WHAT?
YOU OKAY, MAN?
hwuh?
TOO SOON.
IT'S STARTING, BUT AT LEAST YOU'RE HERE!
IT'S ALL COMING TOGETHER, BOY! I NEED YOUR HELP!
LOOK, I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF WHATEVER'S GOING ON IN THERE.
I'M GONE ALREADY, OKAY?
WHOA!
THAT GUY WAS WARPED. LAST THING I NEED...

"...IS TO GET TANGLED UP WITH SOME CRAZY DUDE."
OUCH.
FELT... STRANGE... FOR A SECOND. AND...
...IT'S RAINING ALL OF A SUDDEN. WHERE AM I?
NO.
NO.
NO.
THE QUESTION IS, WHO ARE YOU?

SPIDER-MAN, I PRESUME, BUT YOU'VE CHANGED TAILORS SINCE LAST WE TANGOED.
huh?
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE IN MY LIFE, LAUGHING BOY! SINCE WHEN IS THE CIRCUS IN NEW YORK?
NEW YORK?
DEAR BOY, THIS FAIR GEM IS GOTHAM, FAMED FAR AND WIDE FOR ITS FLYING RODENTS AND MURDEROUS, DISFIGURED PSYCHOTICS.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. WHAT'S A GOTHAM?
"WHAT'S A GOTHAM?" HOO, THAT'S GOOD. THAT'S RICH. REMINDS ME OF A JOKE...
...ACTUALLY, EVERYTHING REMINDS ME OF A JOKE...
...BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
YOU ARE IN GOTHAM. IF YOU DON'T KNOW THAT MUCH, YOU HAVE A SERIOUS REALITY PROBLEM.
AND I WOULD KNOW.
YEAH, I'M BEGINNING TO THINK YOU WOULD.
WHAT'S A CLOWN DOING ON TOP OF A BUILDING IN A DOWNPOUR, ANYWAY?
OH, I THOUGHT I MIGHT BLOW IT UP...
...BUT FIREWORKS ARE SO ABYSMALLY DULL IN THE RAIN.

HA HA. YOU'RE A RIOT.
LOOK, SOMETHING'S PRETTY WEIRD HERE AND I'D LIKE SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED. YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TOLD ME WHO YOU ARE.
MY CARD.
NO!
ARE YOU...
...INSANE?
COUNT YOURSELF LUCKY I'M MORE FOND OF BUGS THAN I AM OF BATS.
SO MUCH FOR THE LOVELY EVENING I HAD PLANNED. I COULD JUST KILL THE WEATHERMAN.
hmm, THERE'S A THOUGHT.
TA.
WOULD SOMEBODY PLEASE TELL ME...

"...WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?"
WESTCHESTER.
BACK DOWN, M'SIEUR...
...WE DONE DIS DANCE TOO OFTEN.
LET HIM COME, CAJUN. ME AN' MARKO ALWAYS GOT BUSINESS TO FINISH.
ALL THE X-MEN CAN'T STOP THE JUGGERNAUT, WOLVERINE. WHAT CHANCE YOU, GAMBIT AND STORM GOT?
NONE.
WHICH IS HOW MUCH BREATHIN' YOU'RE GONNA BE DOIN' IN ABOUT TWO SECONDS, SHORT STUFF.
MARKO? WHAT'S--
KRUNK!

GHN!
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU CAME FROM, BUT I DO KNOW...
WHUD!
...YOU'RE IN THE WRONG PLACE MISTER.
HEY...
...WHERE'D THE RUNT GO?
WHERE'D I GO?

MANHATTAN.
THAT SHOULD HOLD IT.
CAN'T HAVE NO MORE CROSSING OVER, IF THE TWO OF THEM GET TOGETHER...
...DON'T EVEN WANNA THINK ABOUT WHAT'D HAPPEN THEN! DON'T WANNA...
... NO.
NO!
IT'S STILL HAPPENING!
HOLD IT BACK! PLEASE, THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME WAY...
...TO HOLD...
...IT BACK.

CAPTAIN AMERICA.
IT'S OVER! HYDRA DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH HEADS TO KEEP ME OUT OF ACTION...
PWING!
PWING!
SHOOT!
...OR YOU ON YOUR FEET!
OFF!
CLANG!
NOW...
...I WANT TO KNOW WHO SENT YOU. WHO'S BEHIND --?
WHERE...
...WHERE'D HE GO?

WONDER WOMAN.
STAY DOWN, OFFICER!
THERE.
THAT SHOULD DO UNTIL A CREW CAN MAKE A THOROUGH REPAIR.
WRUNCH!
WONDER WOMAN!
AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU! THE BRIDGE COLLAPSE WOULD'VE KILLED ME AND PLENTY MORE BESIDES.
CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH. YOU'VE BEEN A HUGE HELP SINCE YOU SETTLED HERE IN GATEWAY--
--LORD, WHAT'S THAT?!
WONDER WOMAN?

HULK.
HULK SMASH!
BRUCE BANNER. DON'T YOU EVEN PRETEND.
JUST HEARING THAT GIVES ME THE CREEPS. REMINDS ME TOO MUCH OF THE CRAZY OLD DAYS.
SORRY, BETTY.
I'M CERTAINLY NOT THE HULK I USED TO BE, AM I?
NO MORE RAMPAGING MONSTER. I'VE GOT BRAINS IN MY HEAD. CONTROL OF MY ANGER...
...AND A BEAUTIFUL WIFE AT MY SIDE.
YOU CAN SAY THAT LAST PART AGAIN. I LIKE--
--BRUCE?
OH, NO. WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?

SUPERBOY.
AND THIS ISN'T ALL. I CAN FLY, I HAD THESE X-RAY SPECS...
...WHICH I'M REALLY WISHING I STILL HAD RIGHT NOW...
...I CAN EVEN--
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE FOR A SECOND!
THAT ROVING EYE OF YOURS NEVER STOPS.
TANA!
COME ON, TANA, IT WASN'T LIKE THAT I WAS JUST...
...YOU KNOW, SHOWING OFF MY TACTILE TELEKINESIS.
OH, IT WAS TACTILE, ALL RIGHT.
I DON'T KNOW WHY I EVEN PUT UP WITH YOU. SOMETIMES...
...I JUST WISH YOU'D DISAPPEAR.

DEEP SPACE.
LOBO.
C'MERE, YA BASTICH!
NOBODY CALLS LOBO A SIX-TOED CZARNIAN TREE SLOTH AN' LIVES T' TELL TH' TALE!
SO I'M GONNA KILL YA ANYWAY!
BUT I DIDN'T CALL--!
DOESN'T MATTER, YA MIGHT HAVE LATER!
huh?
WHAT TH' FRAG?
¿whew!?

WESTCHESTER.
YOU'RE SAYING HE SIMPLY DIS-APPEARED? NO SIGN OF HIM AT ALL?
NONE WHATSOEVER, PROFESSOR.
THE THREE OF US WERE ENGAGED WITH JUGGERNAUT WHEN THE SHAFT OF LIGHT STRUCK HIM AND HE FADED AWAY. THE LIGHT SEEMED TO COME FROM NOWHERE.
IF I MIGHT INTERJECT, I TRIED MATCHING TRACE READINGS I TOOK IN THE AREA TO KNOWN TRANSPORTATIONAL OR TEMPORAL SIGNATURES ON FILE IN THE COMPUTER SYSTEM.
NO MATCHES, NOTHING EVEN REMOTELY SIMILAR.
WHICH MEANS WHAT, HENRY?
SCIENTIFICALLY?
HE JUST DISAPPEARED.

ONE OF THE GREAT TRAGEDIES OF MY LIFE IS THAT MY STEPBROTHER HAS BEEN AMONG OUR DEADLIEST ENEMIES...
WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, AND WHY.
I SAY GOOD RIDDANCE, CHUCK.
LET MARKO BE SOMEBODY ELSE'S PROBLEM.
LOGAN, YOU KNOW WE CANNOT TURN OUR BACKS ON ANYONE, MUTANT OR HUMAN. IF WE DO SO, WE ARE NO BETTER THAN--
GODDESS!
DIS IS IT! DE SAME LIGHT!
ALL THREE OF THEM GONE, PROFESSOR! RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME...
...AND I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO EXPLAIN IT!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
I'M AFRAID, SCOTT, WE SHOULD BE ASKING...

"...WHO'S NEXT?"
GREEN LANTERN
ELEKTRA
FLASH
THOR
AQUAMAN

SILVER SURFER
CAPTAIN MARVEL
THE SUB-MARINER
CATWOMAN
QUICKSILVER
"I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING..."

...I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT IN HERE, BUT WE CAN END THIS WITHOUT ANYONE GETTING HURT.
BUT FIRST YOU HAVE TO PUT DOWN THE KNIFE...
...AND LET THE BOY GO.
NO!
NO, I WANT ANSWERS NOW! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THERE'S THIS LIGHT, YOU KNOW? THEN I'M NOT WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE!
I'M HERE IN THIS CAVE AND I DUNNO HOW I GOT HERE. SO YOU TELL ME...
...YOU TELL ME WHERE I AM! YOU TELL ME WHO YOU ARE!
IF YOU HURT THE BOY... I AM YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE.
I AM THE BATMAN.

uh-uh.
BULLSEYE DOESN'T SCARE. BULLSEYE DOESN'T MISS, EITHER, ESPECIALLY AT THIS RANGE. SO YOU START SPOUTING ANSWERS, OR THE KID'S GONNA BE--

KID'S GONNA BE GONE!
--GHHK!

hhk
yuh...

...YOU WANT ...TO PLAY... CATCH?
PKK

CATCH.

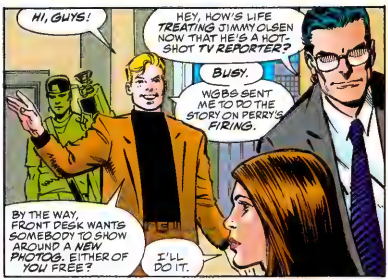
DUCKED IT?
BUT I NEVER MISS! NOBODY'S FAST ENOUGH TO--
--HWFF!
CHUD!
YOU HIT...
...EVEN HARDER THAN...
...THAN...
...DAREDEVIL!
FWUMP!

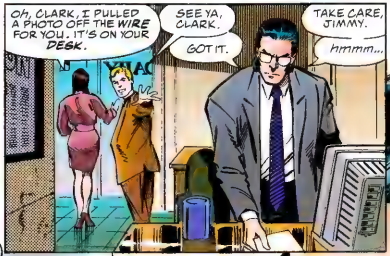
MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALFRED PUT ANTI-SEPTIC ON THAT CUT, ROBIN.
YOU SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO PULL THAT STUNT. I HAD THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.
I'M SURE YOU DID, BUT I WAS THE ONE HE WAS POKING WITH THE KNIFE.
CALLED HIMSELF BULLSEYE. I'VE NEVER HEARD OF HIM.
HOW COULD HE HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE BAT-CAVE?
I DON'T KNOW.
HE'S NOT ONE OF GOTHAM'S USUAL ROGUES GALLERY AND HE SEEMED MORE SURPRISED BY HIS PRESENCE HERE THAN WE WERE.
OBVIOUSLY, SOMETHING STRANGE IS OCCURRING. BUT I'M AT A LOSS TO--
--ROBIN!
TIM...
"...WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU?"
JUBES?
WERE YOU EXPECTING A BOY TO BE DELIVERED?
NOPE...
...BUT I LIKE HIS FASHION SENSE ALREADY.

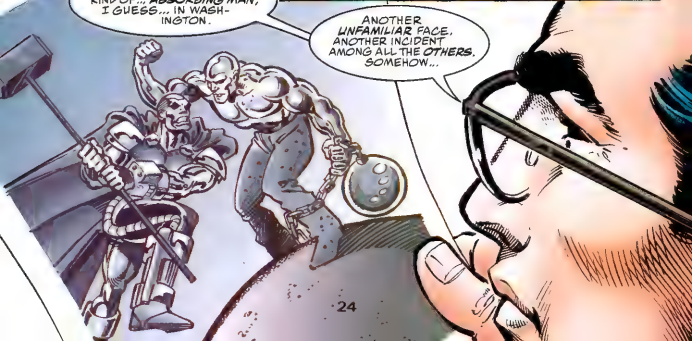
--IS CLARK KENT?! I NEED THAT STORY NOW!
WELL, I'M SURE HE'S JUST CHECKING FACTS, OR MAYBE--
JAPAN SURRENDERS
SOMEBODY LOOKING FOR ME?
THE PLANET'S A DAILY, KENT, NOT A WEEKLY! MAYBE THE WORD DEADLINE DIDN'T HOLD MUCH MEANING FOR YOU BEFORE...
...BUT NOW THAT I'M THE EDITOR AROUND HERE, YOU'LL GET YOUR STORIES IN ON TIME!
PEOPLE ARE COPING WITH ALL THE WEIRDNESS GOING ON OUT THERE, BUT THEY WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING! WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT AND TELL THEM...
I'LL GET RIGHT ON IT. AND, UH...
...THIS IS A NON-SMOKING BUILDING, CHIEF.
...OR MY NAME ISN'T J. JONAH JAMESON!
METROPOLIS.
DAILY PLANET
KENT! WHERE THE DEVIL--

I'LL SMOKE ANYWHERE I WANT TO, KENT!
AND DON'T CALL ME CHIEF!

HE'S CERTAINLY GOT A DIFFERENT STYLE THAN PERRY.
THAT'S AN UNDERSTATEMENT.
I WISH WE COULD FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS "MYSTERIOUS PUBLISHER" WHO TOOK OVER THE PLANET AND FORCED OUT PERRY!
WITH EVERYTHING ELSE THAT'S BEEN GOING ON, WE CAN'T LET THAT BE OUR MAIN CONCERN, THOUGH I SUPPOSE IT'S POSSIBLE THERE'S A CONNECTION...


HI, GUYS!
HEY, HOW'S LIFE TREATING JIMMY OLSEN NOW THAT HE'S A HOT-SHOT TV REPORTER?
BUSY.
WGBS SENT ME TO DO THE STORY ON PERRY'S FIRING.
BY THE WAY, FRONT DESK WANTS SOMEBODY TO SHOW AROUND A NEW PHOTOG. EITHER OF YOU FREE?
I'LL DO IT.


Oh, CLARK, I PULLED A PHOTO OFF THE WIRE FOR YOU. IT'S ON YOUR DESK.
SEE YA, CLARK.
GOT IT.
TAKE CARE, JIMMY.
Hmmm...


...STEEL BATTLING SOME KIND OF... ABSORBING MAN, I GUESS... IN WASHINGTON.
ANOTHER UNFAMILIAR FACE, ANOTHER INCIDENT AMONG ALL THE OTHERS. SOMEHOW...

"...IT MUST ALL ADD UP."
BY CLARK KENT
Planet reporter
"What's happening?"
Everyone from school children to Superman is asking the same question as our reality inexplicably changes around us
Nothing, apparently, is safe. Not the buildings in which we live and work, not the people we know and love, not even the heroes on whom we depend
Among the most visible reminders of our suddenly unstable reality are the disappearances of familiar costumed heroes...
...coupled with appearances of new and different ones, sporting names like Captain America...
...or Daredevil, the man without fear.

We concern ourselves with heroes because they are mirrors in which we see ourselves.
Their reactions during this crisis reflect the range of our reactions
Some face threats posed by unfamiliar villains as bravely as ever. .
...while encounters between those more likely to be considered anti-heroes...
...have erupted in a violence bred of fear or confusion

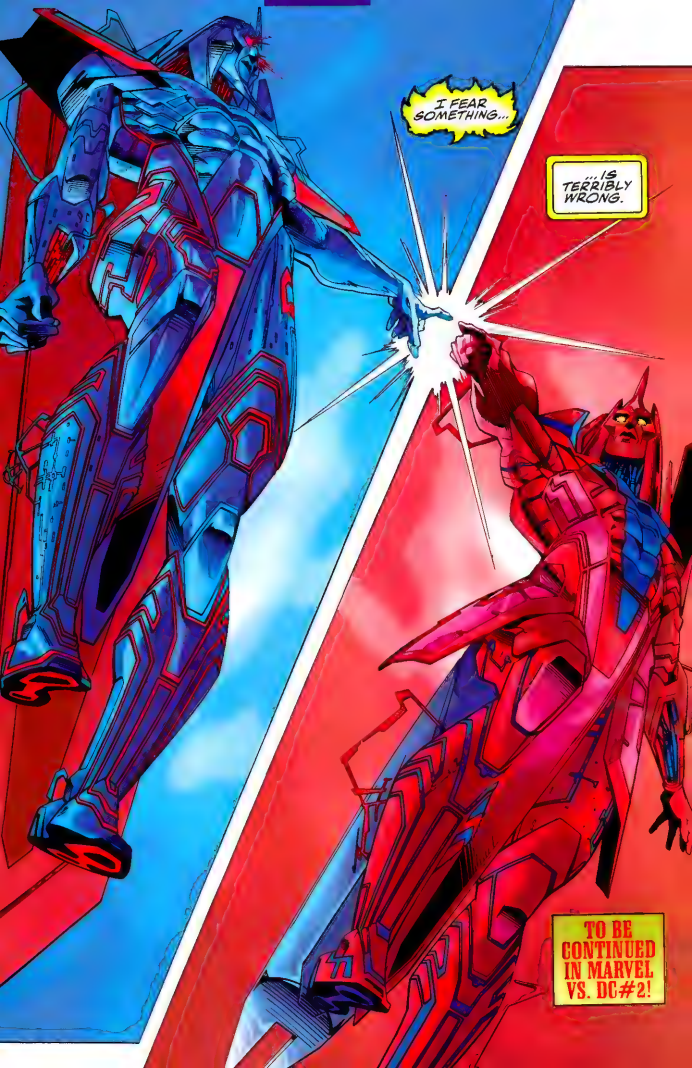
Although misunderstanding has led to blows in some cases...
more often we have risen above our differences, united by a spirit of learning ..
or friendship
or teamwork

We all want to find a cause for our fractured reality, and we have no answers.
So all of us, from super hero to common man, are left to fight our individual battles.
Heroes, both familiar and unfamiliar, battle new menaces...
We must hope that in trying to win these battles.
...we're not losing a more epic war we don't yet understand
CLARK? IF YOU'VE GOT A MINUTE...
.. while the rest of us fight the battle of everyday lives buffeted by forces beyond our control.

...TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
SURE THING, LOIS.
THE MAN-BAT AND... NO, I DON'T RECOGNIZE THE OTHER. VERY NICE WORK, THOUGH.
MEET THE MAN WHO TOOK THAT SHOT. CLARK, THIS IS OUR NEW PHOTOGRAPHER.
HECK OF A PHOTO. SORRY, I DIDN'T GET YOUR NAME.
WELL, IT'S REALLY BEN REILLY, BUT MY PROFESSIONAL NAME IS PETER PARKER, SO I GUESS THAT'S WHAT YOU CAN CALL ME.
AND THANKS, BUT I REALLY GOT LUCKY WITH THE PHOTO. RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME.
DON'T BE SO MODEST, PETER. PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
YEAH, YOU TOO.
THEY TELL ME WE'RE GOING TO BE WORKING TOGETHER.
GREAT...
...MAYBE BETWEEN THE TWO OF US, WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING.
OH, I DUNNO ABOUT THAT. I THINK IT'LL TAKE SOMEBODY BIGGER THAN EITHER OF US...

"...TO REALLY GRASP IT."
WHAT TRANSPIRES HERE? THE UNIVERSE ITSELF RIPPLES WITH DISTURBANCE.
I SENSE THE WORKINGS OF FORCES I HAVE NEVER BEFORE ENCOUNTERED, POWERS WHICH MAKE ME INCONSEQUENTIAL BY COMPARISON.
EVENTS ARE BEING SET IN MOTION...
...THAT NOT EVEN THE SPECTRE CAN STOP.

THE COSMIC BALANCE TILTS...
...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, I CANNOT RIGHT IT. BUT WHAT COULD EXIST THAT IS MIGHTY ENOUGH TO THWART THE WILL...
...OF THE LIVING TRIBUNAL?


I FEAR SOMETHING...
...IS TERRIBLY WRONG.
TO BE CONTINUED IN MARVEL VS. DC#2!

About 60 years ago, the first comic book appeared featuring a hero with a cape, long underwear, and powers and abilities far beyond those of mortal men. Many others soon followed. Heroes with long bat ears, heroes with magic rings, heroes who could run as fast as bullets, and so on. Unfortunately, I wasn't born yet so I wasn't there to read about them.

About 30 years ago, another major comics publisher was coming into its own with a whole new breed of hero. Heroes who spun webs, heroes who turned into green monsters, heroes who burst into flame, and so on. I was a young lad in Oshkosh, Wisconsin when I discovered comic books with all these fascinating figures at the drugstore where my mother worked. These colorful heroes seized my imagination--I learned how to read just so I could figure out what was in those white balloons floating above their heads. It didn't take long before I began investing all my allowance and all my lawn-mowing money in these strangely compelling periodicals.

As I carefully pored over each and every new treasure I acquired, certain questions were sparked in my adolescent mind, questions that soon were fanned into flame. Questions of a cosmic nature. Questions like ... who's stronger, Superman or the Hulk? Who's a better fighter, Captain America or Batman? Who's a better swimmer, Sub-Mariner or Aquaman?

About 15 years ago, I fulfilled a childhood dream by joining the staff of Marvel Comics. The perplexing conundrums of my youth had at that time still gone unaddressed. The heroes lived in their separate worlds and as powerful as they were, they could not surmount the dimensional--and legal--barriers that kept them apart. Now that I was on the other side of the comic-book page, I learned my younger self was not the only one preoccupied by these long unanswered questions--not a month went by that I didn't see at least one fan letter from somebody suggesting we pit all our guys against all of theirs in a definitive knock-down, drag-out contest of champions.

With the publication you hold in your hands, it has finally come to pass. The ultimate fantasy of untold thousands of comics readers has at last become reality. And me--I'm as pleased as a kid discovering his first comic book to be a part of this epic undertaking. My co-editor Mike Carlin and I are bosom buddies from the early eighties and we've seized the massive challenges coordinating this monumental project with the manic glee of two super heroes righting a longstanding wrong. If you have anywhere near as much fun reading this four-issue extravaganza as we're having putting it together, you're in for a treat that won't be equaled for a long time to come.

-Mark Gruenwald
Co-editor
Marvel Comics

P.S. Vote Marvel!

As Mark just mentioned, he and I have been pals for about 15 years. I joined Marvel Comics as Mark's assistant, and we quickly overcame any boss-worker baloney and became fast friends. Mark's story of how he came to find comics, learn from them and ultimately live the dream of actually helping to create them parallels mine to a T. What we had in common (love of comics) helped us forge a bond that mirrors the bond that has brought many readers together in fan clubs, comic-book conventions and on the internet. The last 30 or so years have really brought the comics reader and fan to the forefront.

The readers are the ones who first realized that Superman and Batman actually shared a space and not only could interact but should. And what's more, they could team up with the rest of the DC Universe's great heroes (Flash, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Hawkman and others) and form various Justice Leagues to participate in Infinite Crises. The readers are the ones who wanted all the characters of the Marvel Universe (Captain America, Thor, Rogue and others) to get together in various Contests of Champions and Secret Wars.

Sixty years, all told, and there has been only one major event the readers have been hoping/asking for that hasn't happened--an all-encompassing crossover set on a scale so big, so cosmic, that you would need two entire universes in which to fit it all!

I left Marvel about ten years ago and have since been at DC (where I actually interned over twenty years ago--so I am back where I belong!) and truth to tell, the denizens of both the Marvel and DC Universes, *behind the scenes*, actually mingle and merge way more than you might suspect. At the aforementioned conventions, at local watering holes, even at each others weddings (Mark and I have both been in each other's wedding parties over the years)... anywhere and everywhere we've had crossovers *behind the scenes*! Comics is a small enough pond that us fish (writers/artists/editors) keep swimming back and forth from company to company.

Now is the time for the characters to do the same. Now is the time to fulfill the dreams of millions of comics readers (Mark, myself, and the writers and artists of DC VERSUS MARVEL included). Now is the time for the characters to meet en masse... the way we creators have for to, these many years (though with probably a smidgen more physical conflict)... to decide the fate of not one, but two Universes!

And, y'know, IF our heroes can survive all this life/death baloney they, too, might be able to become fast friends. (Luckily there will always be villains to keep those happy heroes--and us writers and artists and editors--on their toes!)

Let the games begin!

-Mike Carlin
Co-editor
DC Comics

P.S. Vote DC!

★DECISION '96!★

The fate of the two greatest comic book universes hangs in the balance. Eleven battles will determine which universe is supreme. And *you* get to decide which fighters will win The Battle of the Century!

There are six preliminary "bouts" looming in the cosmic title match that is DC VERSUS MARVEL! Aquaman vs. The Sub-Mariner! Elektra vs. Catwoman! Captain Marvel vs. Thor! Jubilee vs. Robin! The Flash vs. Quicksilver! Silver Surfer vs. Green Lantern!

Next up on the MARVEL VERSUS DC card are the five main events (the heavyweights, if you will)! Superman vs. Hulk! Captain America vs. Batman! Lobo vs. Wolverine! Storm vs. Wonder Woman! Superboy vs. Spider-Man!

Eleven representatives from the Marvel Universe and eleven representatives from the DC Universe.

All the greatest of their kind.

All aware that the Universe that loses the most battles could cease to exist forever.

All at your mercy, because *you* can control the outcome of the five main events!

Using the ballot on the last page of this issue* you can answer the age-old question of who would win these universe-spanning confrontations!

What follows is the most important information you could read to help you make an informed decision when casting your votes regarding the Battle of the Century!

Each combatant in DC VERSUS MARVEL is featured here. Their facts and figures are presented in an effort to enlighten you regarding the strengths and abilities of each and every hero involved. All this is designed to give you the statistical input needed to make an educated choice regarding who would vanquish who in a knock-down, drag-out contest of might and wits!

MARVEL VERSUS DC is your opportunity to affect events in two universes! Use your vote, or else your favorite hero could lose his or her entire existence!!

★MAY THE BEST UNIVERSE WIN!★

RESULTS TO BE SEEN IN MARVEL VERSUS DC #3

*Or in the free DC VERSUS MARVEL preview and/or ballot card available in limited quantities at a comics shop near you. Or in the DC COMICS section of America Online. Voting ends at midnight December 31, 1995... so vote now!

SUPERMAN

Created by Jerry Siegel & Joe Shuster

Real name: Clark Kent
Other current aliases: None
Dual identity: Secret
Current occupation: Reporter, columnist, novelist
Former occupations: Editor of Newstime magazine
Place of birth: Conceived on planet Krypton, "born" out of birthing matrix in Smallville, Kansas, U.S.A., DC-Earth
Marital status: Engaged to Lois Lane
Usual base of operations: Metropolis
Current group membership: None
Height: 6' 3" **Weight:** 225 lbs.
Eyes: Blue **Hair:** Black
Superhuman powers: Vast superhuman strength; invulnerability; able to move, fly and react at superhuman speeds; X-ray vision, telescopic vision, microscopic vision, heat vision, superhuman senses
Source of powers: Kryptonian physiology charged by solar radiation
Special skills: None
Weapons: None
First appearance: ACTION COMICS #1 (1938)

THE HULK

Real name: Robert Bruce Banner
Other current aliases: Bob Danner
Dual identity: Publicly known
Current occupation: Unemployed
Former occupations: Nuclear physicist, enforcer, covert operations leader, auto mechanic
Place of birth: Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A., Marvel-Earth
Marital status: Married to Elizabeth "Betty" Ross
Usual base of operations: Mobile
Current group membership: None
Height: 6' 6" **Weight:** 1,150 lbs.
Eyes: Green **Hair:** Black
Superhuman powers: Vast superhuman strength, stamina, and resistance to injury; ability to leap miles in a single bound
Source of powers: Gamma radiation mutated physique
Special skills: None
Weapons: None
First appearance: INCREDIBLE HULK #1 (1962)

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Real name: Steven Rogers
Other current aliases: None
Dual identity: Secret
Current occupation: Professional hero
Former occupations: Soldier, police officer, teacher, illustrator, special agent
Place of birth: New York City, U.S.A., Marvel-Earth
Marital status: Single
Usual base of operations: New York City
Current group membership: The Avengers
Height: 6' 2" **Weight:** 240 lbs.
Eyes: Blue **Hair:** Blond
Superhuman powers: Peak human strength, agility, speed, stamina, and resistance to injury
Source of powers: Super-soldier serum augmented physique
Special skills: Mastery of unarmed combat, mastery of throwing shield
Weapons: Indestructible shield
First appearance: CAPTAIN AMERICA COMICS #1 (1940)

BATMAN

Created by Bob Kane

Real name: Bruce Wayne
Other current aliases: "Matches" Malone, Sir Hemingford Gray
Dual identity: Secret
Current occupation: Multimillionaire socialite
Former occupations: None
Place of birth: Gotham City, U.S.A., DC-Earth
Marital status: Single
Usual base of operations: Gotham City
Current group affiliation: None
Height: 6' 2" **Weight:** 220 lbs.
Eyes: Blue **Hair:** Black
Superhuman powers: None
Source of powers: Not applicable
Special skills: Incomparable athlete, skilled in all forms of physical combat; world's greatest detective; master of escape and disguise.
Weapons: Utility belt contains wide array of devices such as lasers, gas pellets, ropes, and Batarangs.
First appearance: DETECTIVE COMICS #27 (1939)

WONDER WOMAN

Created by William Moulton Marston

Real name: Diana

Other current aliases: None

Current occupation: Ambassador, visiting lecturer

Former occupations: Princess

Place of birth: Themyscira, DC-Earth

Marital status: Single

Usual base of operations: Gateway City

Current group membership: Justice League America

Height: 5′ 11″ **Weight:** 135 lbs.

Eyes: Blue **Hair:** Black

Superhuman powers: Vast superhuman strength, able to fly and move fast enough to deflect bullets with her silver bracelets

Source of powers: Gift of the ancient Greek gods

Special skills: Trained in all ancient Greek methods of armed and unarmed combat

Weapons: Wields the unbreakable Lasso of Truth, forged from the girdle of Gaea, which forces anyone held by it to tell the absolute truth

First appearance: ALL-STAR COMICS #8 (1941)

DC VERSUS MARVEL COMICS

STORM

Real name: Ororo Munroe

Other current aliases: None

Dual identity: Secret

Current occupation: Professional hero

Former occupations: Rain goddess, thief

Place of birth: New York City, U.S.A.–Marvel-Earth

Marital status: Single

Usual base of operations: Salem Center, New York

Current group membership: The X-Men

Height: 5′ 11″ **Weight:** 127 lbs.

Eyes: Blue **Hair:** White

Superhuman powers: Psionic manipulation of the weather, including rain, fog, lightning, and wind; she can fly by riding wind currents

Source of powers: Benevolent mutation

Special skills: Mastery of lockpicking, escape arts, and battle strategies

Weapons: None

First appearance: GIANT-SIZE X-MEN #1 (1975)

WOLVERINE

Real name: Logan (no known first name)
Other current aliases: None
Dual identity: Secret
Current occupation: Professional hero
Former occupations: Soldier, covert operative
Place of birth: Somewhere in Canada, Marvel-Earth
Marital status: Single
Usual base of operations: Salem Center, New York
Current group membership: The X Men
Height: 5′ 3″ **Weight:** 195 lbs.
Eyes: Brown **Hair:** Black
Superhuman powers: Superhuman strength, agility, reflexes, and stamina, heightened senses, rapid healing powers, possesses retractable claws on each hand
Source of powers: Benevolent mutation
Special skills: Mastery of many forms of unarmed combat
Weapons: None
First appearance: INCREDIBLE HULK #180 (1974)

MARVEL Comics VERSUS DC ®

LOBO

Created by Keith Giffen and Roger Slifer

Real name: Just Lobo
Other current aliases: The Main Man, the Master of Frag
Dual identity: Just Lobo, okay?
Current occupation: Bounty hunter, assassin, scourge of th' cosmos, thug
Former occupations: Bounty hunter, assassin, scourge of th' cosmos, thug
Place of birth: The formerly delightful planet of Czarnia
Marital status: Confirmed bachelor
Usual base of operations: At large on his spazzfrag spacehawg or in some divey space bar
Current group affiliation: No one would have him!
Height: 6′ 4″ **Weight:** 305 lbs.
Eyes: Blood red **Hair:** Sepulchre black
Superhuman powers: Vast superhuman strength, intergalactic tracking ability, healing factor, deal with heaven that makes him immortal
Source of powers: Hideous twist of fate
Special skills: Good with his hook and chain, good brawler, mean biker
Weapons: Gutting hook with chain, various sidearms
First appearance: Goofy version: OMEGA MEN #3 (1983); cooler version: JLA #18 (1988)

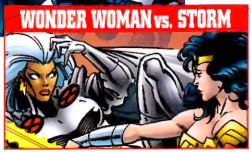
SUPERBOY

Real name: Superboy
Other current aliases: None
Dual identity: None
Current occupation: Hero and student
Former occupations: Defender of Metropolis
Place of birth: Project Cadmus, U.S.A.–DC-Earth
Marital status: He's single and likes it that way.
Usual base of operations: Hawaii
Current group membership: Honorary Legionnaire
Height: 5′ 7″ **Weight:** 150 lbs.
Eyes: Blue **Hair:** Black
Superhuman powers: Tactile telekinesis power enables him to fly, lift anything he touches, and protect himself and those he touches from direct physical harm. He can also extend t.k. causing objects to break apart, move, or explode.
Source of powers: Genetically altered clone
Special skills: Popular with the ladies
Weapons: None
First appearance: ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #500 (1993)

SPIDER-MAN

Real name: Peter Parker
Other current aliases: Ben Reilly
Dual identity: Secret
Current occupation: Waiter
Former occupations: Newspaper photographer
Place of birth: New York City, U.S.A.–Marvel-Earth
Marital status: Single
Usual base of operations: New York City
Current group membership: None
Height: 5′ 10″ ***Weight:*** 165 lbs.
Eyes: Hazel **Hair:** Brown (dyed blond)
Superhuman powers: Superhuman strength, stamina, and resistance to injury, ability to leap 20 feet in a single bound, ability to stick to walls
Source of powers: Irradiated blood
Special skills: Inventive genius
Weapons: Wrist-worn web-shooters projecting strong, fast-drying web for a variety of uses, including impact webbing; stingers
First appearance: AMAZING FANTASY #15 (1962)

THE BATTLES



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WHO IS COOLER?

WHO IS MEANER?

WHO IS SMARTER?

WHO IS TOUGHER?

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☐ HULK vs. SUPERMAN ☐

☐ SUPERBOY vs. SPIDER-MAN ☐

☐ WOLVERINE vs. LOBO ☐

☐ WONDER WOMAN vs. STORM ☐

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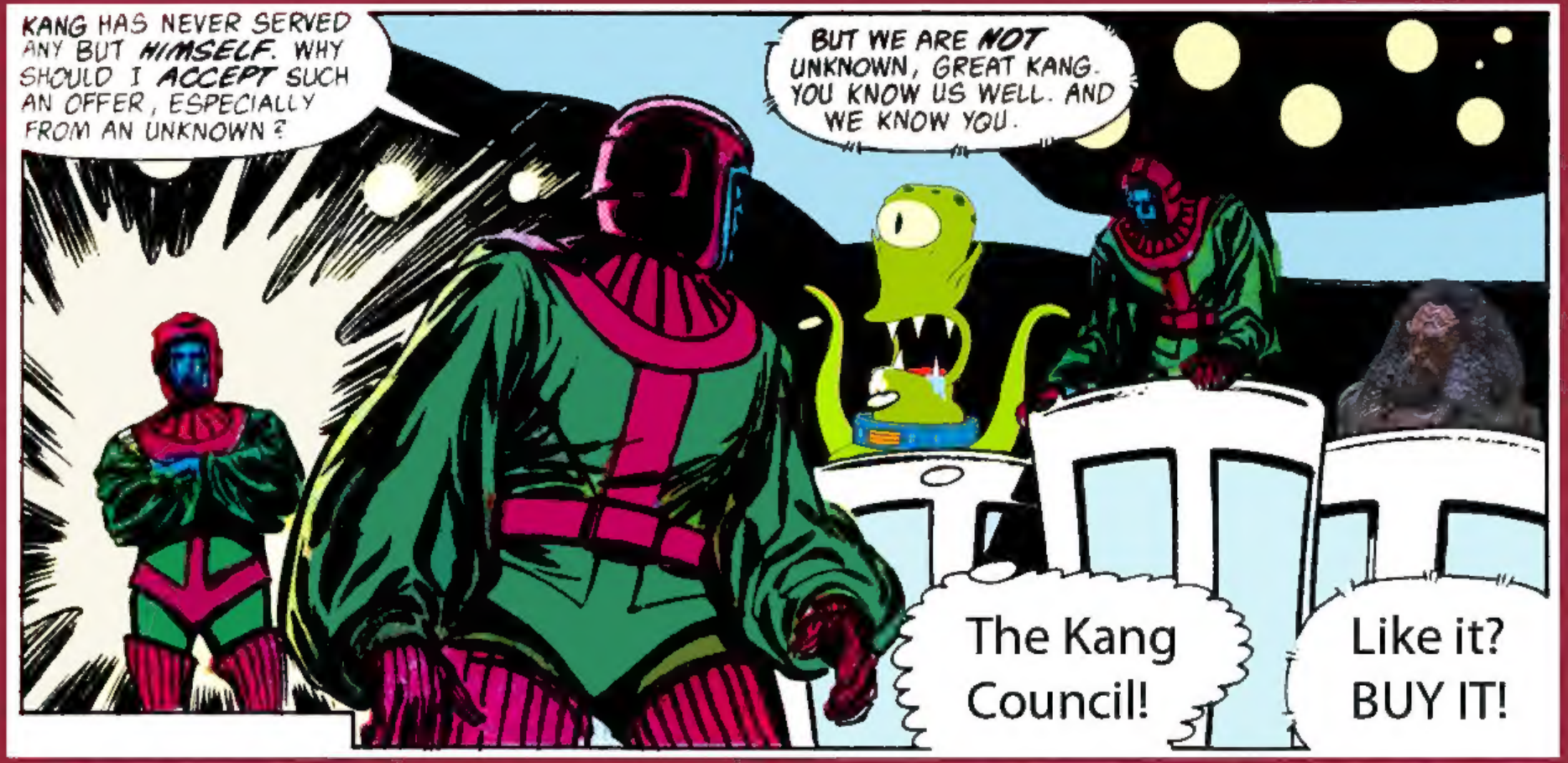
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